

**New At The Library**

Here's what's new at the Yankton Community Library this week:

- ADULT BOOKS**
- **All for a Story** by Allison Pittman; Fiction
  - **Dangerous Passage** by Lisa Harris; Fiction
  - **Duplex** by Kathryn Davis; Fiction
  - **The Heavens Rise** by Christopher Rice; Fiction
  - **Hidden Heritage** by Charlotte Hinger; Fiction
  - **Innocence** by Dean Koontz; Fiction
  - **The Missing Dough** by Chris Cavender; Fiction
  - **Nine Inches** by Tom Perrotta; Fiction
  - **The Prince of Risk** by Christopher Reich; Fiction
  - **The Secret Daughter of the Tsar** by Jennifer Laam; Fiction
  - **Twisted** by K. A. Robinson; Fiction
  - **Aimless Love** by Billy Collins; Nonfiction
  - **Days of Fire** by Peter Baker; Nonfiction
  - **Everything I Need to Know I Learned From a Little Golden Book** by Diane Muldrow; Nonfiction
  - **History Will Prove Us Right** by Howard P. Willens; Nonfiction
  - **How to Travel the World for Free** by Michael Wigge; Nonfiction
  - **Hunting Season** by Mirta Ojito; Nonfiction
  - **Japan 1941** by Eri Hotta; Nonfiction
  - **The Letters of John F. Kennedy** edited by Martin W. Sandler; Nonfiction
  - **The Life & Poetry of Ted Kooser** by Mary K. Stillwell; Nonfiction
  - **The Noticer Returns** by Andy Andrews; Nonfiction
  - **A Place Called Home** by Mr. Jason Grant; Nonfiction
  - **A Reader's Book of Days** by Tom Nissley; Nonfiction
  - **The War That Ended Peace** by Margaret MacMillan; Nonfiction
  - **We Are Still Here** by Bancroft & Wittstock; Nonfiction
- ADULT AUDIO BOOKS**
- **And When She Was Good** by Laura Lippman; Fiction
  - **Deadline** by Sandra Brown; Fiction
  - **Dust** by Patricia Cornwell; Fiction
  - **The First Phone Call from Heaven** by Mitch Albom; Fiction
  - **The October List** by Jeffery Deaver; Fiction
  - **Odd Apocalypse** by Dean Koontz; Fiction
  - **Stella Bain** by Anita Shreve; Fiction
  - **Storm Front** by John Sanford; Fiction
- YOUNG ADULT BOOKS**
- **Revealed** by P. C. & Kristin Cast; Fiction
- JUNIOR BOOKS**
- **One Came Home** by Amy Timberlake; Fiction
  - **The Water Castle** by Megan Fraser Blakemore; Fiction
- EASY BOOKS**
- **Clark the Shark** by Bruce Hale; Fiction
  - **The Great Lollipop Caper** by Dan Krall; Fiction
  - **Hiding Phil** by Eric Barclay; Fiction
  - **I Can See Just Fine** by Eric Barclay; Fiction
  - **John's Whistle** by Ferreiros & Wimmer; Fiction
  - **Rufus Goes to School** by Kim T. Griswell; Fiction
  - **Where Is Baby?** by Kathryn O. Galbraith; Fiction

**The Bookworm**

**This Holiday Book's For The 'Dogs'**

"The Dogs of Christmas" by W. Bruce Cameron; © 2013, Forge; 238 pages

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

This Christmas, you're giving up a lot. You're giving up a corner of your home for a Christmas tree. You're giving up money to make sure the best gifts are beneath that tree on Christmas morning. You're giving up time to bake, decorate, send cards, maybe even volunteer.

You're giving up a lot this Christmas, whether you realize it or not. But, as in the new book, "The Dogs of Christmas" by W. Bruce Cameron, you're getting so much more in return.

Josh Michaels didn't want to answer the phone.

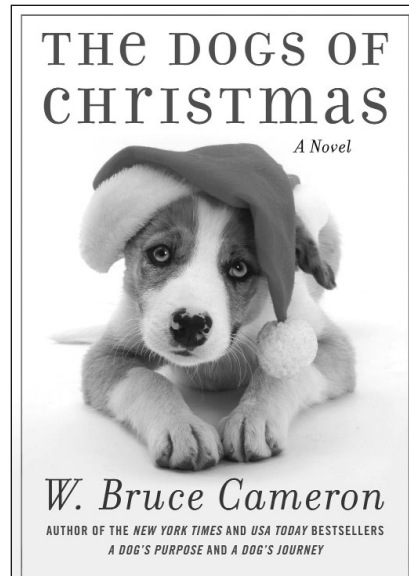
After Amanda left him for another man, there was barely any reason to even have a phone but he picked the receiver up anyhow, hoping it was her. When he found out who was on the line, he was immediately sorry he did.

It was his scruffy neighbor, Ryan, who told Josh a hurried, convoluted story about France and his ex-girlfriend's dog, Loose. Blah-blah-blah, and before Josh could protest, Ryan left the dog on Josh's porch and, tires spinning, was gone.

Loose. As in Lucy.

As in, a female dog. A pregnant female dog.

Josh had never had a dog, didn't know



the first thing about caring for one, and didn't want this tail-thumping German-Shepherd-something. He didn't want puppies, either, but he felt bad when Lucy's puppies died. Was it fate that somebody abandoned five tiny pups in his truck while he was at the vet's?

Maybe, and it was a miracle that Lucy adopted them. Dogs were pretty awesome.

Still, Josh had lots of questions, so he called the local animal shelter and spoke with a girl named Kerri, who offered to

come to his house. He wasn't expecting her to be so pretty or funny. Josh could imagine himself asking her out — and when he finally did, he decided he liked her. Kerri could almost make him forget about Amanda.

Almost.  
But what he couldn't forget was that Lucy was somebody else's dog. Kerri wouldn't let him forget, either, that keeping six dogs was illegal and that he'd promised to adopt the puppies out — which was something Josh couldn't bear.

He'd had enough loss in his life. Could he lose his little dog family, too?

It's a good thing you weren't sitting next to me while I was reading "The Dogs of Christmas." I never cry at novels, but I cried at this one ... though it's really not a sad story.

Yes, this book has sad elements in it (ones that dog lovers will completely understand), but it also oozes with humor and charm. Author W. Bruce Cameron introduces us to a wonderfully geeky main character, a sweet-but-socially-inept man to whom bad things perpetually happen. That makes for a delightful story, a perfect plot, and a book that's hard not to love.

If you must have a holiday tale to put in the Christmas mood, this is the one you must have. For whatever little free time you've got left this season, "The Dogs of Christmas" is worth giving it up for.

**Appreciation**

**O'Toole's Personality Made Him A Giant**

BY KENNETH TURAN  
© 2013, Los Angeles Times

Was there ever an actor who aged more gracefully, more beautifully than Peter O'Toole, who died Saturday at age 81?

I know the conventional wisdom is otherwise, insisting that, physically at least, O'Toole bore the ravages of a hard-lived life. I said as much myself writing about 2006's "Venus," noting that it was "wrenching" to see his character "sitting on his bed, rumpled and fragile and without the will to get up until he slaps himself hard and says, 'Come on, old man.'"

That performance earned O'Toole his eighth Oscar nomination, the most for any non-winning actor. It was also confirmation of the self-confidence and continuing skill of a performer who had initially turned down an honorary Oscar three years earlier, insisting he was "still in the game."

Indeed, in "Venus," his last great role, O'Toole used his lifetime of talent, craft and simply living to turn the part of an aging actor who forms a connection with a young woman into a master class of seemingly effortless screen acting.

This performance was in some ways the opposite of the young and vital work that made O'Toole an international star in 1962, eight years after he graduated from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, reportedly in the same class with Alan Bates, Albert Finney and Richard Harris.

No one needs to be told that that was the title role in David Lean's "Lawrence of Arabia," a film whose scope and intelligence were so formidable I fear we will never see its like again.

Not only was O'Toole young and lithe enough at age 30 to bring the physical elan of T.E. Lawrence to life, he had the gifts of conveying almost casually both the astuteness and the eccentricity of this highly unusual leader of men.

A key scene here is the one in which Lawrence puts out a burning match between two fingers without so much as blinking an eye. When a



Actor Peter O'Toole, who is seen backstage at the 75th Annual Academy Awards in 2003, died Saturday at age 81.

British officer tries, howls in pain and asks how the trick is done. Lawrence enigmatically replies that the answer is "not minding that it hurts."

When I think about "Venus" and "Lawrence," in my mind the bookends of O'Toole's career, I don't see the decline but the continuity. Yes, he aged, but he was always O'Toole, a superior being with the generosity to bring everyone along for the ride. If it could be argued that all his characters were aspects of himself, O'Toole's personality was so multifaceted that each performance felt individual.

Aside from those films, my favorite O'Toole performances were both from the same period, the 1980s, and both had the actor playing larger-than-life characters with the movie business in their blood.

In 1980's "The Stunt Man," he plays crazy-like-a-fox director Eli Cross, whose motto is "If God could do the tricks that we can do, he'd be a happy man." a filmmaker who has a weakness for acting like the deity himself.

In 1982's "My Favorite Year," O'Toole became Alan Swann, a wild and crazy movie actor modeled loosely on Errol Flynn who has to be kept sober for an appearance on a TV variety show inspired by Sid Caesar's "Your Show of Shows."

O'Toole, who was an Oscar nominee for both roles, also appeared in his share of dreadful films — I'd almost forgotten he played Tiberius in the benighted "Caligula" —

but he could always be counted on to surprise you just when you'd counted him out.

The last time the actor made me smile was in 2007, when, in a part writer-director Brad Bird wrote with him in mind, he voiced cadaverous food critic Anton Ego, aka "The Grim Eater," in the delightful "Ratatouille."

In thinking back over O'Toole's career, I kept coming back to a line from "My Favorite Year," when the desperate Swann insists, "I'm not an actor, I'm a movie star." Peter O'Toole was magnificently both, and he proved it time and time again.

Kenneth Turan: kenneth.turan@latimes.com

**Dakotas Collaborate On 'One Book' Project**

BROOKINGS — In a joint effort with the North Dakota Humanities Council and the 125th Anniversary Committees from the states of North and South Dakota, the South Dakota Humanities Council will commemorate the entry of South and North Dakota into statehood with a special One Book collaboration.

"Dakota: A Spiritual Geography" by Kathleen Norris will serve as the joint One Book for the two states in 2014. The humanities councils in North and South Dakota will engage residents in literary programming based on Norris' *New York Times* bestselling book, in which she paints "a fine portrait of the High Plains and its people as well as a very personal memoir of a spiritual awakening," according to *Publishers Weekly*.

Since 2003, the One Book South Dakota program has encouraged everyone across South Dakota to read and discuss the same novel or memoir throughout the course of a year.

Community and book groups receive books on loan and can invite a South Dakota Humanities Council scholar to facilitate discussion.

Norris is spent time in both states and maintains a residence in Lemmon.

"The South Dakota Humanities Council is very pleased to be able to work with our

neighboring state on this very special and unprecedented One Book collaboration," said Sherry DeBoer, executive director for the South Dakota Humanities Council. "We are excited to commemorate both states' heritage with the brilliant work of a tremendous author."

The South Dakota Humanities Council will work with a publisher to print 3,000 copies of a joint special edition that will be used as a circulating library. Statehood logos and language indicating the joint selection as the North and South Dakota One Book will appear on the front book cover.

"When Sherry called and asked if North Dakota wanted to partner on this project, I was thrilled," said Brenna Gerhardt, executive director of the partnering North Dakota Humanities Council.

"When it was written, Norris's book represented the Dakotas to the nation, and it still does. When I travel and tell people I'm from North Dakota, I often have people ask me if I've read 'Dakota.' Revisiting her book is a lot like looking in the mirror and thinking, 'Is this how people see us?' I'm curious to see if people will agree with the picture she paints of us or find it as appealing as people from outside our borders do."

Norris is an award-winning poet, writer, and author of *The New York Times* best-sellers "The Cloister Walk," "Amazing

Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith," "The Virgin of Bennington" and the 2014 One Book, "Dakota: A Spiritual Geography."

"Dakota" is a former *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year and was selected at the time of its printing as one of the best books of the year by Library Journal.

The *San Francisco Sunday Examiner and Chronicle* calls Norris "one of the most eloquent yet earthbound spiritual writers of our time."

South Dakota Humanities Council uses its One Book Program to engage audiences from the smallest towns, biggest cities and reservations in the state. This project presents a unique opportunity to commemorate a milestone, and honor the great state of South Dakota through cultural and literary programming.

Norris will conduct a six-city tour in South Dakota, making stops in geographically diverse locations, including an appearance at the 2014 South Dakota Festival of Books Sept. 26-28 in Sioux Falls. She will deliver a keynote lecture during the event.

In addition to the book, a study guide will be produced with a special section on the current relevance of early statehood issues.

For more about the South Dakota Humanities Council and the One Book program, visit www.sdhumanities.org/.

**Close But Of Oscar**

Peter O'Toole was nominated for eight Academy Awards; he never won. (He was, however, given an honorary Oscar in 2003.)

Here's the history:

- 1962: "Lawrence of Arabia"

Winner: Gregory Peck, "To Kill a Mockingbird"

- 1964: "Becket"

Winner: Rex Harrison, "My Fair Lady"

- 1968: "The Lion in Winter"

Winner: Cliff Robertson, "Charly"

- 1969: "Goodbye, Mr. Chips"

Winner: John Wayne, "True Grit"

- 1972: "The Ruling Class"

Winner: Marlon Brando, "The Godfather"

- 1980: "The Stunt Man"

Winner: Robert De Niro, "Raging Bull"

- 1982: "My Favorite Year"

Winner: Ben Kingsley, "Gandhi"

- 2006: "Venus"

Winner: Forest Whitaker, "The Last King of Scotland"

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